

COMMENTS

The enclosed is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action mailed on February 25, 2009. At the time the Examiner mailed the Office Action claims 1-26 were pending. By way of the present response the Applicant has: 1) amended claims 3, 5, 9-12, 17-21; 2) added new claims 27-29; and, 3) not canceled any claims. As such claims 1-29 are now pending. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application and the allowance of claims 1-29.

The Examiner has objected to claim 5 for its recital of the term "shifter". In response, the Applicant has amended claim 5 to recite the term "shift".

The Examiner rejected claim 3 for its recital of "said multiplexer's channel". The Applicant respectfully submits that no amendment is required because the claim term should be read as "said multiplexer's channel select input". MUX Select 210 in Figure 2 of the Applicant's specification shows an embodiment of the claimed "[multiplexer] channel select input."

The Examiner has also rejected claim 3 for its failure to recite first and second groups of Y contiguous bits. In response, the Applicant has amended claim 3 to recite first and second groups of Y contiguous bits.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 9 and 18 for their recital of “multiplexer” without distinguishing which multiplexer applied. In response the Applicant has amended all claims where relevant to distinguish between first and second multiplexers.

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 as being obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,903,619 (“Chaisemartin”). Claim 1 clearly recites that the act of “rotating” occurs after alignment has been found. Chaisemartin, by contrast, only discloses that rotating is performed in order to find alignment (i.e., rotating is only performed before alignment has been found). See, Chaisemartin col. 3, lines 29-41. Chaisemartin appears to disclose very little information as to specific steps that are taken after alignment has been found. The Applicant can only find col. 4, lines 25-33 and col. 6, lines 31-37. Neither of these portions of Chaisemartin disclose or suggest the act of rotating coupled with the other elements claimed by the Applicant to produce aligned data.

New independent claim 27 is allowable over Chaisemartin for essentially the same reasons.

In light of the comments above, the Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of all claims.

CONCLUSION

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Robert B. O'Rourke at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,

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